



901 Buckner Road | Phone (803) 252-3381
Columbia, SC 29203 | Fax (803) 252-4104

To: Senator John Scott

May 3, 2016

Re: Requesting Support for HR Bill 3440 on Mopeds

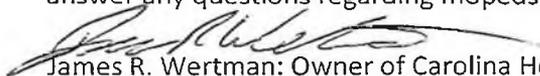
From: James R. Wertman: Owner of Carolina Honda
901 Buckner Road
Columbia, SC 29203
jwertman@carolinahonda.com
803-351-2702

As a motorcycle dealer here in your district in Columbia South Carolina, I am asking f you to review and support HR Bill 3440 on mopeds in South Carolina. Under the current system they are unregulated. The current laws are very confusing and very hard to interpret. Additionally, there is no accountability from the operator and no protection for our citizens and property owners. Deaths on mopeds continue to rise because there are no clear compliance rules or laws on the purchase and operation on our highways today. Without clear and concise laws and rules, deaths will continue to rise, property will continue to be damaged, and unauthorized dealers who sell products that are unsafe and fail to meet the criteria under the law will continue to occur.

Why support HR Bill 3440?

1. It clearly defines what a moped is.
2. It requires the operator to be licensed.
3. It requires the operator to carry minimum insurance.
4. It requires the moped to be registered by the Department of Motor Vehicles like all other vehicles operating on our highways.
5. It prohibits the operation of mopeds on public roads with speed limits greater than 55 MPH.
6. It states the limitations on the operation of a moped.
7. It protects the operator, other motorists, and property owners.
8. It stops illegal sales and will increase tax revenue in the state.

Failure to support this bill and do nothing will only result in more deaths on mopeds, more illegal sales, the failure to know how many mopeds are actually operating on our highways, and the failure to protect our citizens from damage to their property. The current law is confusing, enforced differently across the state, and places a financial burden on the operators of mopeds. For example, in one city a Honda Ruckus that does 33 MPH is a legal moped and not ticketed while in Columbia it is ticketed for exceeding 30 MPH. The unfairness extends to a dealer like me that follows the current law and causes my business as well as South Carolina a loss of income from the sale and tax revenue. I am willing to participate in any forum or answer any questions regarding mopeds.


James R. Wertman: Owner of Carolina Honda